

Jasper County Animal Control Board

Public Meeting
April 10, 2017

Board President, Del Cleek called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. at the Rensselaer Branch of the Jasper County Library. Board members in attendance were: Del Cleek, Dr. Janice Mallory, Nancy Shull, Dee Vanderwall, Jerry Furst, Marissha Mathews, Shelter Director Mark Sinclair, ACO Kelly Sperle. No Citizens were in attendance.

The Minutes of the March, 13th 2017 meeting were emailed to all board members. Jerry moved to approve the minutes as presented, Nancy seconded and the minutes were approved.

Mark gave the Director's report stating that thirty-one calls were responded to last month; two were after hours, three wellness checks, and four dogs bite cases. The shelter took in fourteen dogs, two of which were dog bite case, those dogs were euthanatized per owners request. The shelter adopted out nine and four were reclaimed by owners. Shelter took in fifteen cats. Four were adopted, ten went to rescue, and euthanatized five feral cats. We sent four euthanatized dogs to Perdue for research. We have a verbal commitment for dogs, for their students to work on. We also sent ten euthanatized cats to Nasco out of Wisconsin. We will receive \$5 each for them for research. Two dogs were listed as dangerous dogs, one in Rensselaer and one in Demotte.

Mark attended the Commissioner's meeting for approval of the security cameras which were approved and are now up and running. Volunteers had three hours last month. Staci Bakondi the new hire was introduced to the board. Reliable Exterminators were out to spray the food shed for bugs. Gravel was brought in from the county department to fill in holes and had the drive way filled in were the employee's park. The shelter had a water leak in the water system from an old fitting. Frank Shelly from Shelly Heating & Cooling came out and fixed it.

April 20th ACO Kelly Sperle and Mark will be going to a table top disaster exercise in Michigan City. The shelter received two more donations one from TSC- two half pallets of food, Also Julie Peterson from the Clover's 4-H group brought one load of food and supplies. Sunday, April 9th at 7:30 a.m. there was a dog dropped off; A full blooded German Sheppard. The owner of the dog left all of her food and medical records and a note explaining why he could not keep his dog as he was sick and dying and wanted her to go to a good home. Laura, the weekend shelter attendant, came in to clean in the morning and when she came back in the afternoon she reported that the dog was gone. Our new security cameras caught the dog's owner's son coming in, kicking in two gates and removing the dog. It is pending a police report and the Rensselaer prosecutor's office for charges. The shelter does not currently have the dog in custody as the son still has it until we are notified to come retrieve it from the police.

OLD BUSINESS

Open House update: Kelly reported that we are still waiting on Stacks to confirm supplying the hot dogs. REMC will be donating water. Del is getting the flyers ready to send out to the rescues. Del suggested that advertising be at a minimum since this is our first attempt. The open house will be from 1–3 pm. And are hoping to get face painting and the balloon animals arranged along with a shelter tour, demonstrations with different kinds of animals. Marissha is bringing a cotton candy machine. Jerry is going to bring ice and coolers.

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption policies and procedures will be posted at the shelter and on the county website and Facebook. Due to a citizen's call caused by a misunderstanding of the procedures the policy was discussed. Mark handed out a copy of the procedure that they use because there is no written policy. Applications are available as soon as an animal is posted but it might be up for adoption yet. Applications are reviewed and veterinarian references are checked. Adoption is determined based on several things; if the animal will be kept inside or out, other pets in the home, children etc. Mark will retype the policy/procedure and e-mail to board members.

Dee will ask advice from a local attorney regarding the legalities of the statement on the adoption contract regarding spaying and provide a pre-paid receipt for vaccinations within 72 hours. The issue will be tabled for now.

Mark brought up the adoption rates. Discussion ensued regarding the cost versus the fees. Jan moved to raise the fees to \$35.00 for both cats and dogs. Marissha seconded and the new fee structure passed. Mark will take it before the commissioners for approval.

Budget considerations. Budget hearing will be in July during the day. We are supposed to get a month notice. Del suggested if members could not attend to send a proxy so that we have support for the shelter's budget. Del will e-mail a copy of the 2017 budget. Mark will also research grants that might be available.

Jan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. and Nancy seconded and the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting is May 8th at 6:00 p.m.